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April 29, 2004

Examiner Gentle E. Winter

Re: 09/909,277; Attorney Docket No: BUR920000136US1

1. (Currently amended). A method for removing contaminants from the surface of a semiconductor substrate ~~which comprises~~ comprising:

~~applying~~ forming an intact and contiguous film of a fluid ~~to said~~ on a surface of said semiconductor substrate at an ambient temperature;

lowering the temperature of the fluid ~~so as to form~~ <sup>thereby</sup> forming a solid layer of the fluid over the surface and entrapping contaminants within the layer; and

applying a sonic energy having a frequency of from about 5 Hz up to megasonic values to the layer or substrate or both under such conditions as to result in separation of said solid layer including the contaminants from the surface.

✓  
consisting

23. (Currently amended) A method for removing contaminants from the surface of a semiconductor substrate ~~which comprises~~ comprising:

~~applying~~ forming an intact and contiguous film of a fluid ~~to said~~ on a surface of said semiconductor substrate at an ambient temperature;

lowering the temperature of the fluid by reducing the temperature of the substrate so as to form a solid layer of the fluid over the surface and entrapping contaminants within the layer; and

applying a sonic energy having a frequency of from about 5 Hz up to megasonic values to the layer or substrate or both under such conditions as to result in separation of said solid layer including the contaminants from the surface.

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The recitation "a sonic energy having a frequency of from about 5 Hz up to megasonic values" is supported in the original specification at page 5, lines 6-7.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Best regards,

John